

Current Affairs Test 4

Q No 1

Introduction:

11/20

China Pakistan Economic Corridor is a flagship project of BRI (Belt and Road Initiative). China choose Gwader as their most valuable investment just because of the potential it have.

Phase 1:

CPEC phase one was started from 2015 till 2019 until corona/covid hits the world. During its phase-1 the target was of building connectivity through better road infrastructure, and the phase one completed on higher note or can be called successful.

Phase 2:

The phase-2 targets to build nine economic zone in all parts of the country. The construction slowed down due to covid but

The control over covid-19 left many other doors open as a barrier for China and Pakistan. We can say "Out of frying pan into the fire" because the geopolitical tension between neighbouring countries surged after 2021. The insurgency in Balochistan and KPK also peaked in last one or two years which directly having its effects on the Phase-2.

Reasons that slowed down the CPEC project:

CPEC phase two is slowed down due to problems that are created for it from ~~is~~ all the different dimensions.

① Political Instability:

Political instability in a country is like a worm that eats all the healthy tree from inside than leave it weak and hollow.

Pakistan has been facing the same from the "Vote of No Confidence" against former Prime Minister. A political divide is created in country. The incarceration of populist leader in 2023 created many violent reaction from the public, such as the events of 9th May 2023 and 26th November 2024. These kind of incidents create negative image of the the country and a loss of confidence can be experience from the investors.

② Attacks on Chinese individuals:

After 2021, when USA left Afghanistan a vacuum of leadership is created in Afghanistan. The surge in terrorist activities against the Chinese engineers and personals can be noticed after that. The enemy countries who doesn't want Pakistan's economic progress

funding extensively to the terrorists and insurgents. Their support made them stronger and the events like

↳ Chinese engineer killed in TTP's attack in the area of Diaman Basha Dam

↳ Karachi University incident - when a woman blast herself near the van of Chinese

↳ PC hotel Gawadar attack

↳ Karachi Airport attacks

many more attacks has been noticed in past three years on Chinese personals.

③ Concerns of National Integration:

The CPEC has remained

the target of Baloch separatist group as their demands were not being fulfilled by the state. These groups were constantly targeting the machineries and

infrastructure of CPEC project. The transport vehicles have been burnt down in the areas of Balochistan and construction machinery involved in the construction of economic zones and Gwadar airport were in constant targets of these individuals.

(4) Weak and porous Borders:

India and its intelligence has made their control offices in the areas of IRAN and Afghanistan. The involvement of these offices in oppose of CPEC is constant.

"The target of Iran inside Balochistan in March 2024 has the involvement of India's will"

Otherwise IRAN had very good ties with Pakistan since history. The visit of Iran's ex-President right after these attacks are example of it.

Remedial options for Islamabad and Beijing:

There is a lot that Islamabad can do to tackle the cause of insurgency and terrorist attacks on the Chinese targets.

① Strong political government on the choice of majority:

The civil-military divide became extreme after the 08-Feb elections. Although as ~~Trump~~ Donald Trump said in his speech that "Too big to be rigged" pointing out the 2020 election where he was winning after tough competition but due to rigging he lost, but 2024 elections gave him lot bigger margins that can't even be rigged. Same goes with 08-Feb the margins were too big but still rigged and a non credible government is created which is failing to gain public support.

This is affecting in constant regime changes and alternatively constant policy changes which directly affect the countries governance. And CPEC is under the governance

② National Integration should be prioritized:

Resolving the issues of Baloch and Pashtun belts can create a recovery for the state as it can reduce the 90% of the attacks on the CPEC project. Resolving the issue of missing persons of the both regions can resolve the BYC: Baloch Yekjehti Committee and PTM: Pashtun Tahafuz Movement concerns, and a soft corner can be gained from both of these masses.

③ Strengthening the Border control:

Trump built a strong border between us and Mexico

which controlled maximum issues such as illegal immigrants and drugs. The same way Pakistan can strengthen its both borders to control the third party involvement in the country.

Conclusion:

This major causes if resolved the Phase-2 of CPEC can be built lot more smoothly and rapidly, as the phase-1 was built. Achieving these goals are seem to be difficult but if tried with pure will these resolutions are possible to be achieved. Primarily the political stability then the national integration and lastly the strengthening of the borders.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams" Eleanor Roosevelt.

Q No 3:

10/20

Introduction:

Russia has been a great power since long, after the breaking of USSR in 1991, it still managed to remain very influential in world's geopolitics due to its technology in strategic, huge land mass and more than huge gas resources. China on the other hand has a great history before the century of humiliation it faced from 1845-1945, but in current century it emerged as a vital global power due to its advancement in economic, strategic and technological sectors.

"From one of the poorest country 7 decades ago to the 2nd highest economy of current-time"

makes china's jaws very strong and

deep into the geopolitics.

China-Russia Collaboration is a threat to Unipolarity of USA:

The relation of both China and Russia has remained positive since long. They both signed multiple treaties for their friendly relations. Such as the "Sino-USSR Treaty in 1950's" and "The treaty of neighborliness and cooperation" between them, creating a trouble or potential challenge to the US hegemony.

① Economic front:

"From economy of few billions in 20th century, China is now the economy of 17 trillion dollars."

In comparison US is 24 trillion dollar economy, but way higher in debt. The rapid economic increase

of China is threatening the US led monetary organizations. The dependency on US will decrease as China-Russia creating multiple organizations in competition. Such as.

① SEO ② BRICS + ③ ADB

These organizations have ability to counter the Bretenswood

organizations which are creating debt-traps for many developing countries dependent on them. The

high requirement of energy in China for running its mass of industries

also helping Russia to recover

economically. China is buying majority of the energy resources from the Russia and Central-Asian countries,

and due to US sanctions on Russia are becoming for less harmful for

Russia as it has a brother or friendly neighbour as a purchaser.

The economic perspective of hegemony of

US is now highly challenged by these countries.

② Strategic Front:

Russia has known in the history for the war abolishes it. Russia. The defeat of Germany in WWI is the example of Russia's supremacy in strategic point of view. Russia was completely competing with US in the cold war zone, and built equally able technologies of weapons as compared to the US. Now the alliance of Russia and China in form of BRICS+ make them even stronger in strategic fronts.

" Claim of China over Taiwan and activities in South China Sea are the example of China's Rise "

China is constantly investing in its weapons and military from last decade. The numbers are increasing constantly. On the other hand.

" Invasion of Russia in Ukraine "

Justifying the recovery of Russia. Russia was in deep crisis in the end of cold war, but due to their developing strategies in past two decades have revived its potential in strategic fronts.

③ Geopolitical front:

The constant expansion of BRICS+

"More than 40 countries are in que to join BRICS+"

making their involvement in global politics. The sole hegemony that US enjoyed since past four decades is in danger. The constant involvement of China in the globe creating multipolarity. Some of the major achievements that China has achieved in past few years

are

- ↳ Covered the whole economic market with its impacts
- ↳ Created an arbitrary role between IRAN and Saudi.
- ↳ Maximised its involvement in Panama canal
- ↳ Hegemony in Indo-Pacific region
- ↳ Created proxy's in anti-US states
- ↳ Belt and Road Initiative covering 140+ countries.
- ↳ Decreased the value of western products by providing better technology and quality in cheaper rates. (BYD vs Tesla)

These were the few achievements that China has injected in geopolitics. Only China has the potential to win in trade war against USA. Russia has also the potential of involving itself

in geopolitics, as many of the non-capitalist states possess soft corners for Russia. The idea of de-dollarization by issuing a competitive currency such as BRICS+ was delivered by President Putin in the summit of BRICS+ (2024). The basic idea was of President Xi-Jing Ping to tackle the sanctions that US implements on any country who acts against its will.

Conclusion:

Russia and China have become very much capable of changing the world order. Both consist all the attributes that a global power can possess. As

"China is a sleeping giant, if wakes will shake the world" Napoleon Bonaparte